## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BOX: PCT (DO/EO/US)
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement prepared by the applicant with regard to the above-identified application. The references cited on the attached Form PTO-1449, copies of which are attached to the Information Disclosure Statement, are the closest prior art of which the applicant is aware.

The relevancies of the European reference and the WIPO publication are believed to be quite clear from the Abstract and drawings in each. There is no English translation of the cited French reference available to applicant, but it is believed that the relevancy thereof is clear from the drawings therein. Additionally, attached hereto is a copy of the International Search Report issued in the corresponding PCT application, i.e. PCT/EP98/06984, and it will be seen therefrom that all of said references were cited in the Search Report under Category A only, i.e. documents defining the general state of the art which are

95-00 Linda B. not considered to be of particular relevance.

Accordingly, no further comment in regard to the disclosures of these references is believed to be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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Examiner

Date considered

\* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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